

Application Number: 10/685,187

Reply To Office Action Of FEBRUARY 9, 2005

Remarks

Claims 1-25 are pending in this application. New Claims 25-32 have been added to further define aspects of the invention. Applicant has amended the specification to include updated information on the applications for which the instant application claims priority. The amendments made herein to the specification and claims do not incorporate new matter into the application as originally filed. Support for the amendments can be found in the drawings and throughout the instant specification.

Non-Statutory Double Patenting Rejection

In the Office Action, the Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3, 4, 6-11, 15, 20, and 22-25 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-32 of U.S. Patent No. 6,644,309. The examiner has also rejected claims 2, 5, 8, 12, 13, 14, 16-18, 19, and 21 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-31 of U.S. Patent No. 6,644,309 in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,443,152 to Lockhart et al. In response thereto, applicant attaches hereto a Terminal Disclaimer in accord with 37 CFR 1.321(c) signed by the Agent of Record for U.S. Patent 6,644,309. Applicants respectfully submit that such Terminal Disclaimer obviates the obviousness-type double patenting rejections.

New Claims

New dependant claims 26-32 have been added to further define aspects of the invention, which are fully supported by the instant specification, *e.g.*, *see* the specification at page 11, paragraphs 17 and 18. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

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Conclusion

In view of the Disclaimer filed herein and the Remarks above, applicant respectfully submits that Claims 1-32 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests that the Examiner earnestly reconsider his rejections of the present application. Applicant hereby authorizes the Commissioner to charge the fees necessary in connection with this Response and Terminal Disclaimer (Assumed to be \$130.00) and any other fees necessary in connection with this application, to Deposit Account Number 02-1666.

In light of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the amendments and consider the remarks made herein. Consideration and prompt allowance of the claims are respectfully submitted.

Any questions concerning this application or amendment may be directed to the undersigned agent of applicant.

Dated: May 5, 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

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